Government of India is also implementing a Centrally sponsored "Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oilpalm and Maize (ISOPOM) in the country from 1 st April, 2004 to increase production and productivity of these crops.

Benefit of agriculture to American companies

†1208. SHRI LAXMINARAYAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to extend the benefit of agriculture to American companies following an agreement between India and America; and

(b) the details of loss likely to be incurred on Indian farmers due to this?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) In Indo-US knowledge Initiative on Agriculture/which is under active consideration, there is no proposal to extend benefit of agriculture to American Companies.

(b) Does not arise.

Private sector participation in Indo-US knowledge initiative

1209. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are many private sector representatives in the Board of Indo-US Knowledge Initiative on Agricultural Research and Education;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the members of the board, as on today;

(c) the purpose of above board and the details of initiatives made in the first meeting of the above board;

(d) whether the initial initiative is mainly funded for research in transgenic and bio-technology; and

(e) if so, the details of funding to the board including the sourco of fund?

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.